

CLAIMS

1. A method of transferring a communication session established between a content server (105, 106, 107) and a mobile device (104) in a first service area (101) of a communication network (100) comprising a plurality of service areas (101, 102), each service area being associated with a transcoding proxy (111, 112) for transcoding communication sessions established in said service area to and from a format suitable for the mobile device, the first service area being associated with a first transcoding proxy (111), the method comprising transferring the relaying of the communication session from the first transcoding proxy to a second transcoding proxy (112) associated with a second service area (102) from said plurality.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising transferring session information (505) related to the communication session from the first transcoding proxy (111) to the second transcoding proxy (112).
3. The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving from the mobile device (104) a ready to transfer message (503) identifying the second transcoding proxy.
4. The method of claim 3, further comprising suspending the communication session after the ready to transfer message (503) has been received, and resuming the communication session after a resume message (509) has been received from the mobile device.
5. The method of claim 1 or 3, further comprising receiving from the mobile device in the first service area a transfer request message (501),
determining a neighbor group comprising transcoding proxies associated with one or more service areas from said plurality, the one or more service areas being adjacent to the first service area, and
forwarding the transfer request message to the transcoding proxies from the neighbor group, in response to which at least one of said transcoding proxies sends a transfer reply message (502) to the mobile device.

6. A communication system arranged for transferring a communication session established between a content server (105, 106, 107) and a mobile device (104) in a first service area (101) of a communication network (100) comprising a plurality of service areas (101, 102), each service area being associated with a transcoding proxy (111, 112) for transcoding communication sessions established in said service area to and from a format suitable for the mobile device, the first service area being associated with a first transcoding proxy (111), the communication system (100) further comprising instructing means (354) for transferring the relaying of the communication session from the first transcoding proxy to a second transcoding proxy (112) associated with a second service area (102) from said plurality.

7. The communication system of claim 6, further comprising migration initialization means (352) for receiving from the mobile device in the first service area a transfer request message (501), determining a neighbor group comprising transcoding proxies associated with one or more service areas from said plurality, the one or more service areas being adjacent to the first service area, and forwarding the transfer request message to the transcoding proxies from the neighbor group, in response to which at least one of said transcoding proxies sends a transfer reply message (502) to the mobile device.

8. The communication system of claim 6, further comprising migration means (353) for receiving from the mobile device (104) a ready to transfer message (503) identifying the second transcoding proxy.

9. A mobile assistant server (351) for use in the communication system of claim 6, comprising said instructing means (354).

10. The mobile assistant server (351) of claim 9, further comprising migration initialization means (352) for receiving from the mobile device in the first service area a transfer request message (501), determining a neighbor group comprising transcoding proxies associated with one or more service areas from said plurality, the one or more service areas being adjacent to the first service area, and forwarding the transfer request message to the transcoding proxies from the neighbor group, in response to

which at least one of said transcoding proxies sends a transfer reply message (502) to the mobile device.

11. A transcoding proxy (111, 112) for use in the communication system of claim 6, comprising said instructing means (354).

12. The transcoding proxy as claimed in claim 8, further comprising migration means (353) for receiving from the mobile device (104) a ready to transfer message (503) identifying the second transcoding proxy.

13. A mobile device for use in the communication system of claim 8, comprising communicating means for communicating a ready to transfer message (503), identifying a second transcoding proxy, to said migration means (354).

14. The mobile device of claim 13, further comprising comprising transcoding proxy selection means (355) for receiving one or more transfer reply messages from at least one transcoding proxy, choosing the second transcoding proxy from said at least one transcoding proxy based on said one or more transfer reply messages.

15. The mobile device of claim 14, further comprising strength measuring means (356) for comparing strengths of the respective signals comprising the one or more echo reply messages.

16. The mobile device of claim 13, further comprising storage means for storing a list of service areas and associated transcoding proxies.